

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached new drawing sheet includes the following changes to the drawing figures: New FIG. 6 is added to illustrate a needle [60] in order to overcome the Examiner's outstanding objection under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a). Accordingly, Applicants submit a new sheet adding new FIG. 6. No new matter has been added.

Attachments: Additional Sheet Labeled "New Sheet" (including new FIG. 6)

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 and 9-19 are pending in this application, with claim 1 being independent. By this Amendment, Applicants have amended claims 2, 3, and 12 in order to resolve the formal matters pointed out by the Examiner. In particular, Applicants have rewritten claims 2, 3, and 12 in independent form. In addition, Applicants have amended claims 11 and 17 in order to correct grammar informalities.

In the Office Action dated August 25, 2005, the Examiner explained that “[c]laims 2, 3, and 12 appear to be improper because they fail to further limit the subject matter of claim 1. (See August 25, 2005 Office Action, Page 3.) Applicants respectfully disagree with the view that claims 2, 3, and 12 are improper. Applicants assert that by virtue of the different language in each of the preambles of claims 2, 3, and 12, those claims are in proper form. See, for example, M.P.E.P. § 2111.02 (8th ed. 2001), p. 2100-50, which references, among other cases, *Catalina Mktg. Int'l v. Coolsavings.com, Inc.*, 289 F.3d 801, 808, 62 USPQ2d 1781, 1785 (Fed. Cir. 2002). Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 2, 3, and 12 are in proper form. Therefore, for at least the reasons presented above, Applicants respectfully request a notice of allowance in response to this filing.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Applicants therefore respectfully request reconsideration and the mailing of a notice of allowance in response to this filing.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: December 14, 2005

By: David M. Ruddy
David M. Ruddy
Reg. No. 53,945

Attachments: New Drawing Sheet including new FIG. 6